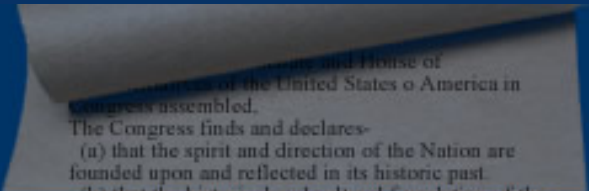


News!

OCTOBER 23, 2009

VOL III , No. 35



APPROPRIATIONS UPDATE

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The House Appropriations Committee is in the process of drafting a continuing resolution that would keep the federal government running likely through December 15th and could include the CR as part of the FY10 Interior-Environment Appropriations conference report. Once passed, all Interior programs would begin receiving their FY10 funds.

House and Senate negotiators are working to finalize the Interior conference report and were told by leadership to have it ready soon. Congressman Norm Dicks (D-WA), Chairman of the House Interior Subcommittee said "We are trying to wrap things up." Rep. Mike Simpson (R-ID), Ranking Member on Interior Appropriations said conferees are reasonably close to finishing. Senate Interior Appropriations Chairwoman, Diane Feinstein (D-CA) said she is not opposed to attaching the CR to the Interior conference report.

Adding a CR may be the best chance for quick passage of the Interior conference report. Senator Coburn (R-OK) is wreaking havoc in the senate by placing "holds" on all spending bills that come before the Senate. Coburn is upset that Senate conferees are not standing up for amendments he insert in other spending bills on the floor. It's still unclear if Coburn is willing to place a hold on a conference report containing a CR which will effectively shut down the federal government.

Stay tuned!



HPF FULL FUNDING CAMPAIGN UNDERWAY

The campaign for permanent and full funding of the Historic Preservation Fund was officially launched last week at the National Trust's annual conference in Nashville! Hundreds of buttons and postcards were distributed and people were encouraged to have their preservation organization join the coalition. Visits to the campaign website, www.fullyfundhpf.org, increased significantly this week and so far 15 additional organizations from around the country have joined the effort. Our goal is to collect hundreds of organizational supporters so please encourage any preservation or preservation related organization you work with to join the coalition by adding their name to our list of organizational supporters. They can do so by sending an email to: coalition@fullyfundhpf.org (additional details can be found on the website).



HOUSE CREATES LIVABLE COMMUNITIESTASK FORCE

On Monday, Congressman Earl Blumenauer (D-OR) and the House Democratic Caucus launched the Livable Communities Task Force (LCTF). According to the press release, the Task Force will identify ways the federal government can be a stronger partner to local communities to improve Americans' quality of life. Specific focus areas include reducing the nation's dependence on oil, protecting the environment, improving public health and investing in housing and transportation projects that create jobs.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

SENATE CLIMATE BILL	2
UPCOMING EVENTS	2

The task force will be promoting a legislative agenda which includes the **Historic Homeowners Assistance Act and the Community Restoration and Revitalization Act**. The LCTF will also hold public briefings and roundtable discussions with experts and stakeholders. These will include members of the administration, NGO leaders, experts, and members of the business community. The LCTF plans to issue a bi-monthly newsletter highlighting Hill and non-Hill events in Washington and important legislative developments.

Below is a current list of task force members and more information can be found on the LCTF website at: www.blumenauer.house.gov/livablecommunities

Earl Blumenauer (D-OR), Sam Farr (D- CA), Rush Holt (D-NJ), Doris Matsui (D-CA), Jim McDermott (D-WA), Richard Neal (D-MA), Tim Ryan (D-OH), Allyson Schwartz (D-PA), Dina Titus (D-NV), Paul Tonko (D-NY), Peter Welch (D-VT), George Miller (D-CA),

Martin Heinrich (D-NM), Lois Capps (D-CA), Andre Carson (D-IN), Hank Johnson (D-GA), Albio Sires (D-NJ), John Olver (D-MA), Russ Carnahan (D-MO)



SENATE CLIMATE BILL INCLUDES PRESERVATION COMPONENT

Next week the Senate Environment and Public Works committee will hold three days of hearings on S.1733, the Senate’s version of a climate change bill. Like the House bill, the Senate includes the proposed Retrofit for Energy and Environmental Performance (REEP) program which would provide \$2.5 billion to states, through their existing state energy program formula, to encourage retrofitting existing homes and buildings. Historic buildings listed in or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places would qualify for 120% of these same awards for funding energy efficiency.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS



March 2-5, 2010 – NCSHPO annual meeting and Advocacy Day